

QUESTIONS ABOUT
The curious incident of the dog in the night-time
Part 2

This book is about a fifteen-year-old autistic boy named Christopher who finds his neighbor's dog has been killed with a pitchfork. Christopher loves murder mysteries and decides to play detective, find out who did it, and write a book about it. This is the book he writes.

The questions below concern chapters 109 to 181, which are prime numbers, and make up pages 74 to 144.

Chapter 109

1. Does Christopher intend to tell his father what he learns about his mother and Mr. Shears? Does he feel sad about what he has learned? Why?
2. Does it matter to him whether different foods touch each other *before* they are put on his plate?

Chapter 113

3. How are the pictures in Christopher's head different from the pictures most people have in their heads? Give an example.

Chapter 127

4. How does his father discover the book Christopher is writing? What is his reaction?

Chapter 131

5. Why is it good to have a reason to hate some things and like others?

Chapter 137

6. What is love according to Christopher? Do you agree?

Chapter 139

7. *An Aside:* Although prime numbers occur unpredictably and are not connected by any formulas, they do follow certain rules. One of these is that they sometimes occur in pairs separated by only one digit like 137 and 139. Look through the chapter numbers and see how many such pairs you can find.
8. What is Occam's razor? Do you believe the rule is trustworthy, in other words, is it a useful rule?

Chapter 149

9. Where does Christopher find his book? What does he find underneath it?

10. What does Christopher learn from the letter? Why is he not yet certain that his mother is alive?

Chapter 157

11. Why is Christopher allowed to use the staff room toilets?
12. Why does his father leave Christopher alone Monday evening? How many letters does Christopher find?
13. Why does Christopher's mother say she had to go away?
14. Where is she living and with whom?
15. Why does Christopher stop reading the letters? What does he do after he stops?
16. What does his father do when he discovers Christopher with the letters?

Chapter 163

17. Why does Christopher believe people's brains are like computers? Why do people think their brains are *not* like computers? What do you think?

Chapter 167

18. Who killed Wellington? Why?
19. What does Christopher do when he learns who killed Wellington?

Chapter 179

20. What method does Christopher use to decide where to go? What is his decision?
21. Whom does he ask to take care of Toby? What happens?
22. How does he get into his house? What does he take from it?
23. What is his explanation for why he doesn't get more and more frightened after he leaves home?
24. How does he find the train station?

Chapter 181

25. With reference to the joke on page 143, is Christopher more like the economist, the logician, or the mathematician? Why?